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the other hand there is much additional material of value dealing with the history of the state from the day of the Indian to the Mexican border disturbances of 1916. One may assume that the story of Mississippi in the present war is reserved for later treatment.

The volume is called the "Centennial edition" and for this reason appears a year later than usual. Its memorial character is emphasized in the colored plates showing the state flag and coat of arms, the state flower, the source of the state's wealth, the cotton plant, and in the words and music of the state song, written by Mrs. Rowland. The volume is profusely illustrated with photographs of former governors and other state and national officials. The usual list of present and former officials, national, state, and county, appear as in former volumes, but in the case of the judiciary these lists are accompanied by a valuable sketch of the state supreme court. In compilation, authorship, and in press work, the volume is worthy of its predecessors and abundantly justifies the happy idea of its editor in making an official register a work of real historical value.

Publications of the Mississippi historical society. Edited by Dunbar Rowland, LL.D., secretary. [Centenary series, volume II] (Jackson: Mississippi historical society, 1918. 604 p.)

Unless special care is taken, the bibliographer is likely to confuse the various publications issued by local and state historical societies. Those of Mississippi will prove no exception to this rule. A few years back the Mississippi historical society and the State department of archives and history were under separate control. Now they are under the same general direction and both series of publications bear the name of Mr. Dunbar Rowland on the title page. For many reasons this unity in publication is desirable, and the editor's name carries assurance to many who have come to know and appreciate his work. On the other hand the present volume bears the additional statement "Centenary series Vol. II" and without further explanation in the introduction or elsewhere one wonders if the annual volumes of the Mississippi historical society are to continue under that name, and what is to be the relation of future issues to the earlier publications of the society.

The "Introductory note" and the "Contents" suggest that the volume is of a miscellaneous popular character. A cursory examination confirms this impression. A centennial poem, a brief biographical sketch of a veteran of the war between the states, sketches of two military organizations of that period and of a minor skirmish constitute the incidental offerings. The editor and Judge J. P. Young discuss from opposing points of view the discovery of the Mississippi by De Soto, the former

championing Mississippi and the latter Tennessee. The greater part of the book is devoted to a study of reconstruction by Captain J. K. McNeiley, the editor of the *Vicksburg Herald*. It is unfortunate that this study has had to be presented piecemeal in the former publications of the society and in this volume, for in the present form the work must compare unfavorably with the more scholarly production of Mr. James W. Garner. A general index and an index of names add to the usefulness of the volume.

Political parties in Michigan, 1837-1860. An historical study of political issues and parties in Michigan from the admission of the state to the civil war. By Floyd Benjamin Streeter. [Michigan historical publications, University series iv] (Lansing: Michigan historical commission, 1918. 401 p.)

This work is another contribution to the field of political development within the commonwealths, a field as yet by no means overworked. Opening with a discussion of organization of the democratic and whig parties during the territorial period, the author shows political alignment as based on economic interests, locality, and influence of previous association. Particularly interesting is the description of the relative weight in Michigan politics of the various elements of the population wherein the New York contingent predominated with the New England contribution next in importance. It was, however, from the New England stock that most of the leaders of both parties sprang in the early days. Since the period of this study falls within the era when the controversy over slavery was uppermost, it is but natural that slavery in its many political manifestations should play a most potent part in the local arena.

Chapter II discusses the antislavery agitation with the emergence of the liberal party, which was composed almost entirely of New York and New England people who knew of the "peculiar institution" only by hearsay, and of the poorer people who had an innate aversion to non-free labor and the "social stratification" produced by a system of servitude. The same issue, in its connection with expansion, together with the tariff controversy, is next traced through the national campaigns of 1840 and 1844 (chapter III), and the disruptive tendencies, especially for the democrats, who fell into four rather distinct groups, are well brought out. The theme naturally brings forward in chronological order the Mexican war and the Wilmot proviso which still further rent the ranks of the whigs and democrats and brought about the organization of the free soil party. Here the analysis of the personnel of the two parties affords a basis for understanding why the conservative east-